In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

~~Claims~~

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently amended) ~~Rod-shaped~~ A rod-shaped massaging appliance with an essentially cylindrical end piece, with a wall or shell ~~(7)~~ made of a rubber-elastic material forming ~~the~~ an outer surface of the end piece and with a drive unit for generating movement on the end piece, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the drive unit forms a plurality of bearing and support surfaces ~~(4.2, 8.1)~~, against which the shell ~~(7)~~ bears, and
that the drive unit is designed for an oscillating deformation of the shell ~~(7)~~ relative to a longitudinal axis of the end piece radially outward and inward, so that this deformation takes place along the longitudinal axis of the end piece and/or in the peripheral direction of the end piece, preferably phase-delayed.

2. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the bearing or support surfaces for the shell ~~(7)~~ are formed by a plurality of support elements, which can be driven by at least one drive element ~~(6)~~ for a radial stroke motion.

3. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the support elements are jaws ~~(4)~~.

4. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to claim 2 ~~or 3~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein several support elements ~~(4)~~ are arranged respectively in a common plane perpendicular to the longitudinal extension of the end piece and form one group of support elements, and that

of such groups is provided successively in the longitudinal direction of the end piece.

5. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, whereby for moving the support surfaces and/or the support elements ~~(4)~~ forming said support surfaces, at least one shaft ~~(6)~~ forming at least one eccentric section ~~(6.1)~~ is provided, which ~~(shaft)~~ said shaft works together with the support elements ~~(4)~~ and can be driven by a drive unit.

6. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one eccentric section extends parallel or approximately parallel to the axis of the shaft ~~(6)~~ at least over a partial length of the at least one shaft ~~(6)~~.

7. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one eccentric section extends diagonally to the axis of the shaft ~~(6)~~ at least over a partial length of the at least one shaft ~~(6)~~.

8. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one eccentric section is twisted along the axis of the at least one shaft ~~(6)~~ so that it extends on a helical line on the axis of the shaft.

9. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to ~~one of the claims 5 through 8, characterized in that~~ claim 5, wherein the at least one eccentric section is formed by one edge of the at least one shaft ~~(6)~~.

10. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to ~~one of the claims 5 through 9, characterized in that~~ claim 5, wherein the eccentric section is formed by the fact that the at least one shaft ~~(6)~~ has, at least on its shaft section ~~(6.1)~~ working together with the support elements ~~(4)~~, a non-circular cross section, ~~for example~~ a polygonal or an essentially polygonal cross section, ~~e.g.~~ triangular or rectangular.

11. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized by~~ claim 1, wherein a single shaft ~~(6)~~ working together with the support elements ~~(4)~~.

12. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized by~~ claim 1, further comprising a plurality of shafts ~~(6)~~ working together with the support elements ~~(4)~~.

13. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the eccentric section ~~(6.1)~~ of the at least one shaft ~~(6)~~ working together with the support elements ~~(4)~~ features a plurality of eccentric surfaces or areas.

14. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the number of eccentric areas or surfaces is equal to the number of support elements ~~(4)~~ in each group of such elements.

15. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the number of eccentric areas or surfaces is different from the number of support elements ~~(4)~~ in each group of such elements.

16. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the inner bearing and support surfaces for the shell ~~(7)~~ are formed by eccentric sections ~~(8.1)~~ of shafts ~~(8)~~ that are oriented with their longitudinal extension in the direction of the longitudinal axis (GL) of the end piece and can be driven by a drive unit.

17. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one eccentric section of the respective shaft ~~(8)~~ extends parallel or approximately parallel to the axis of the shaft at least over a partial length of the shaft ~~(8)~~.

18. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one eccentric section of the respective shaft ~~(8)~~ extends diagonally to the axis of the shaft at least over a partial length of the shaft ~~(8)~~.

19. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one eccentric section of the respective shaft ~~(8)~~ is twisted at least on a partial length along the axis of the shaft so that it extends on a helical line on the axis of the shaft.

20. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to ~~one of the claims 16 through 19, characterized in that~~ claim 16, wherein the at least one eccentric section is formed by one edge of the respective shaft ~~(8)~~.

21. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to ~~one of the claims 16 through 20, characterized in~~

~~that~~ claim 16, wherein the eccentric section is formed by the fact that the respective shaft ~~(8)~~ has a non-circular cross section, ~~for example~~ a polygonal or an essentially polygonal cross section, ~~e.g.~~ triangular or rectangular.

22. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein at least two eccentric areas or surfaces offset on the axis of the shaft are formed on the eccentric section.

23. (Currently amended) ~~Massaging~~ The massaging appliance according to ~~one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein at least one support element ~~(9)~~ is provided for several shafts ~~(8)~~, each featuring one eccentric section ~~(8.1)~~.